

Sunday Morning Worship

August 16, 2026



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

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Order of Worship

August 16, 2026

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship — Romans 6:1-4

Celebration of Baptism

Prayer of Praise

Song — There is a Fountain
Song — Taste and See (Psalm 34)

Scripture Reading — Deuteronomy 6:1-5

Pastoral Prayer

Song — Steadfast Love (Psalm 86)

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel
“Who Is My Neighbor?”
Luke 10:25-37

Song — Genuine Love

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — Romans 6:1-4 (ESV)

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

There is a Fountain

William Cowper

Verse 1:

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

Verse 2:

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day
And there may I, though vile as he
Wash all my sins away

Wash all my sins away
Wash all my sins away
And there may I though vile as he
Wash all my sins away

Verse 3:

Dear dying Lamb Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved to sin no more

Be saved to sin no more,
Be saved to sin no more
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved to sin no more

Verse 4:

When this poor lisping, stammering tongue
Lies silent in the grave
Then in a nobler sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save

I'll sing Thy power to save,
I'll sing Thy power to save
Then in a nobler sweeter song
I'll sing Thy power to save

Verse 5:

E'er since by faith I saw the stream Thy flowing
wounds supply, Redeeming love has been my
theme, And shall be till I die:

And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

Taste and See (Psalm 34)

Jimmy Needham | Shane Barnard | Joseph Rigney

Verse 1:

I sought the Lord, And He answered me
And delivered me, From every fear
Those who look on Him, Are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

Verse 2:

This poor man cried, And the Lord heard me
And saved me from, My enemies
The Son of God, Surrounds His saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

Chorus:

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name forever

Verse 3:

Oh, taste and see, That the Lord is good
Oh, blessed is he, Who hides in Him
Oh, fear the Lord, Oh, all you saints
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

Bridge:

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Neverending praise
May our incense rise

Scripture Reading — Deuteronomy 6:1-5 (ESV)

¹ “Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ² that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son’s son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. ³ Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Steadfast Love (Psalm 86)

Eric Dewar | Glory & Gladness Music

Verse 1:

Lord, we come to you poor and needy.
Lord, we come to you poor and needy!
O incline your ear as we pray,
Showing steadfast love all our days.

Chorus:

You are rich in mercy,
Full of lavish grace,
Always slow to anger,
Showing steadfast love
All our days.

Verse 2:

Hear our cry, O Lord, for forgiveness.
Hear our cry, O Lord, for forgiveness!
All our sins and failures erase,
Showing steadfast love all our days.

Verse 3:

Give us joy and strength as your servants.
Give us joy and strength as your servants!
Turn our hearts and teach us your ways,
Showing steadfast love all our days.

Verse 4:

There is none like you in creation.
There is none like you in creation!
Let the nations join us in praise
Of your steadfast love all our days.

Genuine Love

Eric McAllister

Chorus:

You have welcomed us into your family
Bought by blood into this new community
Teach us love, teach us love, teach us genuine love
So the world may see that you're alive in us
So the world may see that you're alive in us

Verse 1:

We are many, we are one
Joined together in the Son
You have poured your love on us
Ever fervent in our prayers
Ever generous to share
You have poured your love on us

Verse 2:

Songs of thanks and praise we sing
To the God of grace and peace
You have poured your love on us
We're the church of Jesus Christ
Through his precious sacrifice
You have poured your love on us

Verse 3:

Near the grieving we are found
With them still when joy rebounds
As you form your Son in us
We will gather, pray, and eat
Showing honor to the weak
As you form your Son in us

Verse 4:

Though this world may hate your name
We will never be ashamed
As you form your Son in us
For the church that you have won
Evil shall not overcome
As you form your Son in us
As you form your Son in us
You will form your Son in us

Message :: “Who Is My Neighbor?” :: Luke 10:25-37

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## **This Week at First Baptist Church**

### **Sunday, August 16**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
6:00 PM Youth Night

### **Monday, August 17**

### **Tuesday, August 18**

### **Wednesday, August 19**

7:00 PM Summer Seminar #3

### **Thursday, August 20**

### **Friday, August 21**

### **Saturday, August 22**

### **Sunday, August 23**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
12:00 PM Members Meeting  
6:00 PM Youth Night

## **Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church**

### **Wednesday, August 19**

7pm — Summer Seminar #3: “Deacons, Part 2: Church History and FBCUM History”

### **Sunday, August 23 — Members Meeting following worship**

### **Sunday, September 6—Fall DiscipleLIFE Quarter begins**

Please refer to the insert for a choice of adult classes.

### **Wednesday, September 9 — Regular Wednesday Evening Activities Resume**

### **Saturday, September 12—Men’s Breakfast**

### **Sunday, September 13 — Church Potluck Lunch following worship**

Please refer to the insert for additional details.

### **Sunday, November 8 — Starting Point Seminar following worship**

Starting Point is the first step for anyone interested in becoming a church member or simply finding out more about who we are and what we believe here at FBCUM

### **Friday, November 13 & Saturday, November 14 - Men’s Retreat - Save the Date**

*Location Camp Wabanna*

# Ministry Spotlight

*“Ministry Spotlight” highlights church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope you’ll consider how you can pray for and support these ministry efforts. Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

## ChildLIFE MINISTRY

**Ashley Meekins-Smith, Ministry Leader**

Each Sunday, something amazing happens in the Children’s Ministry area. The ChildLIFE Ministry volunteers show up at 9:45am to meet and provide care for our children—babies through PreK—during the worship service.

When parents with preschool-aged children arrive at check-in, they provide information about allergies or any other details that may impact their child’s attendance in ChildLIFE. These details help ChildLIFE workers care for our children during their visit—especially during snack time. Once the children are checked in, the parents receive a corresponding lanyard which must be matched with the child at pick-up time after the service.



As the children enter their classrooms they are greeted by volunteers with smiles in a beautifully decorated room with scripture verses that speak about the importance of being intentional about sharing the gospel. Children settle in and eventually move toward the toys that have been washed since their last visit for their safety.

Every effort is made during the week to ensure the ChildLIFE space is pleasant, engaging with a wonderful array of toys that stimulate a child’s imagination. Toys are carefully chosen to allow children to use them without fear of small parts or sharp edges. Every effort is taken to make sure the preschool classes are clear of any potential hazards. There is also a specific ratio of adult volunteers to children, to ensure that someone can keep an eye on all of the activities in the room. Children are always supervised by more than one adult.

Our goal in ChildLIFE is to partner with parents in discipling their children. As children play with one another they are developing social skills, learning how to problem solve, and being supportive to one another. Some children may also play games, make craft projects, listen to biblical stories, sing songs, or watch approved videos that promote Christian morals and values.

## Ministry Spotlight

Having this safe and caring atmosphere, with volunteers who know the children and their parents, makes our families look forward to their time in ChildLIFE.

Our wonderful volunteers consist of parents of preschool children, other church members, and some youth volunteers that have a heart to serve our children and their families. ChildLIFE volunteers receive a schedule several weeks in advance to ensure that each person is available for their scheduled service time. This allows for adjustments to be made in advance to keep ChildLIFE fully functional. Following this plan, parents of preschool-aged children are able to serve about twice in three months and have the ability to attend worship service ten Sundays out of twelve without distractions. Cooperation is the key that makes this system work.



Did you know that some of our current parents and youth volunteers were once ChildLIFE attendees? It is wonderful to see how our church supports parents and children in such a loving way.

The ChildLIFE Ministry is great, and our team of volunteers are awesome. If you are a volunteer that serves in ChildLIFE, please know how much you are appreciated.

*All interested church members are encouraged to reach out to the church office to find out more details about service schedules (approximately once every 6 weeks), training/policies and background checks. Thank you for desiring to share Christ with our next generation.*



# Praying with First Baptist Church

## A Prayer Guide for the week of August 16

### **Prayer of the week:**

One way we learn to pray is by using the examples in Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, we encourage you to use the prayer of the Apostle Paul from the book of Romans 15:5-6:

*"<sup>5</sup> May the God of endurance and encouragement  
grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup> that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

We recognize our need for God's help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

### **Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God's word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God's glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

### **Prayer items outside our church:**

- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)

- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand), and Tommie van der Walt (Imprint, South Africa). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)
- Pray for those effected by recent natural disasters (earthquakes in Venezuela, wildfires in western USA). Seeing the fragility of this life, pray that many would look to God for eternal hope. Pray for safety and diligence of emergency response personnel as they work to preserve life. Pray for leaders to make wise decisions. Pray for comfort for those who have lost loved ones. (Ps 46:1-2; John 14:27; Is 43:2)
- Pray for the persecuted church around the world; bombings of Christian churches in Sri Lanka, the ongoing killing of Christians by Islamic terrorists in Nigeria. Pray that God would bring peace and comfort to those grieving. Pray that these local churches would continue to flourish in their faith even in the midst of persecution. (1 Peter 1:3-7; 1 Thes 4:13; Ps. 2)

#### **Particular prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for our upcoming Members Meeting on August 23 after worship. Pray that God would continually help us to grow in unity and service to one another as fellow believers here at FBCUM and help us work together for kingdom purposes. (Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for teachers and students in our church family who are going back to school in the coming weeks. Pray they would depend on God and trust Him as they start a new school year. Pray that learning and teaching would be done with excellence to the glory of God (Prov. 3:5-6; 1 Cor. 10:31).
- Pray that our Summer Seminar series led by the elders would be helpful, informative, and productive as we consider the following topics; Marijuana and the Christian (June 17), Deacons and the Bible (July 22), and Deacons in church History and Our History (August 19).
- Pray God brings good spiritual fruit in the lives of our children and students this summer through Vacation Bible School (June 22-26) and Youth Summer Camp (July 13-18). (Gal 5:22-23)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- Pray that we know a profound contentment no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in – a contentment from knowing God is our help. (Heb. 13:5-6)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

**Marjorie Griffin, Jackie Jones, Eileen Kessler**

**[Consult the church directory for a list of those who are homebound and unable to attend.]**

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

# Announcements

**1. Summer Seminar #3 :: “Deacons and the Bible” — August 19, 7-8pm.** Join us for the final Summer Seminar as we seek to understand how Deacons and the role of deacons are described in church history and in our history here at FBCUM. Q&A will follow.

**2. Church Members Meeting :: Sunday, August 23 after worship.** Church members, make plans to attend our regularly scheduled Members Meeting. Minutes from the previous meeting will be available in the church office on August 16.

**3. Fall DiscipleLIFE classes begin on Sunday, September 6**

Please refer to the insert for adult classes selections. You may use [the form](#) or the QR Code to sign up.



**4. Mark Your Calendar :: Regular Wednesday Evening Activities Begin September 9.**

Regular Wednesday evening activities (AWANA, Elder-led Bible Study, Choirs and Band Rehearsals) will begin again on September 9.

**5. Saturday, September 12 :: Men’s Breakfast**

**6. Church Potluck :: Sunday, September 13 after worship.**

Please refer to the insert for details or contact Camille Hawit for more information.

**7. Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- [online](#): click the link or scan the QR code,
- [in-person](#): designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- [by mail](#): send to the church office.



## **Digital Communication Card**

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You’re always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.





## **Fall 2026 (Sept. - Nov.) DiscipleLIFE Classes for adults:**

### **Beginning Sunday, September 6 @ 9 am**

**To help us prepare for this quarter, we are asking that everyone sign up for the class they wish to attend. You can sign up using the back of this form or by scanning the QR Code.**

#### **Explore the Bible – Romans**

In Paul's letter to the Christians at Rome, his systematic and logical explanation of the gospel left no doubt about the world's need for a Savior and our responsibility as Christ followers. By studying his words to the Romans, we can gain a better understanding of who God is, what God does, and the impact it should have on our lives each day. (13 sessions)  
(Books will be available in room 114 Sunday, August 23rd.)

- **Explore the Bible (Coed) - Room 114 Teachers :: Bill Lowry & Jay Crandell**
- **Explore the Bible (Women) — Room 115 Teacher :: Tanya Joy**

*If you are remaining in your current Explore the Bible Class, there is no need to sign up again.*

#### **Elective Class: The Practice of Stewardship**

We are launching a 13-week foundation in financial discipleship designed to help every believer grow in biblical stewardship, find freedom from debt, and honor Christ with their resources. Where our earlier class on Biblical Stewardship taught the doctrine, this one puts it to work.

As part of our FBC Stewardship Pathway, you'll learn how to budget wisely, escape debt, cultivate generosity, strengthen your marriage or navigate money decisions on your own, and plan for the future — all through the lens of God's Word.

Please sign up now to reserve your place. Materials and class details will follow in the weeks ahead.

- **Room 117/118 Teachers :: Tyrone Moorehead & TBD**

*There are DiscipleLIFE classes for all ages that meet every Sunday morning at 9am.*

# Potluck *Church*

**Join us for food & fellowship on Sunday, Sept 13 immediately following the service!**

- Bring a dish that feeds your family plus 3-4 more.
- Last names that start with N-Z also bring a dessert to share.



**Sunday, 13  
Sept 2026**



**Fellowship Hall**

**More Info : Contact Camille  
[sarahcamille22@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahcamille22@yahoo.com)**

# Potluck *Details*

- Everyone brings a dish to feed your family plus 2-3 more.
- Last names that start with N-Z also brings a dessert to share. This is in addition to a main dish.
- Bring a dish ready to be reheated in the oven or kept warm in warming drawers.
- Crockpots are great!
- We are unable to handle any frozen food items.

## **When to drop off your dish**

- Before Disciple Life (8:45am-9am)
- Before Worship Service (9:45am-10am)

## **Have a question or interested in helping?**

**Following service today, Camille will be in the Fellowship Hall to answer questions and have sign-up sheets if you are interested in helping with specific potluck needs.**

- 6-8 families to sign up to bring food for a kid friendly potluck table.
- 10 volunteers for kitchen duty (putting out food, plates, etc.).
- 5-7 volunteers for the clean-up team.

# The Gospel of Luke: Confidence about Jesus

[Luke 10:25-37](#)

“Who is My Neighbor”– August 16, 2026



## Introduction

When you are accused of something or confronted with your sin, do you get defensive? Do you feel unjustly accused? What if you feel the conviction of sin in light of the holiness of God? Do you try to justify your sin? Where do you go with your guilt and shame?

The parable of the Good Samaritan is very well known. People inside and outside of the church know it, so it is easy to gloss over its message. While this parable challenges us to care for others, that is not the main point. The point of the parable is to give bad news to people who think they are good. It is meant to show that we have not loved as we should have loved and that we cannot love like we should in and of ourselves.

The context of the parable is the lawyer's question – “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” The bigger context is Jesus' response to the seventy He sent to share the good news. They came back rejoicing. Jesus told them to rejoice that their names are written in Heaven. The gospel had been revealed to them, and they believed. God hides the gospel message of the proud, but He reveals the gospel to those who come in humility. ([Luke 10:1-24](#))

## Sermon Outline

1. Take an honest look in the mirror. Vs. 25 - 29
2. Look to God's mercy to make you a loving neighbor. Vs. 30-37

## Read & Discuss

### 1. Read Vs. 25-29

The lawyer's question was straightforward, and it is a question we should all ask. Have you asked this question or are you distracted by other questions that flood your mind? The lawyer's question was a very good question, but it was not his actual concern. He wanted to put Jesus to the test. As Old Testament theologians, this lawyer and others of the day had rejected truth. This lawyer wanted to quarrel and win an argument. Do you have friends like that? Do you have friends who challenge passages of scripture? Do you have questions about what the Bible teaches? Questions are fine, but come with your honest questions with the intent of going where the truth leads. And as believers, we need to be careful not to pick up the Bible to quarrel with those who have not come to know truth.

Here Jesus turned the tables on the lawyer. Jesus asked him, “what is written in the Law?” Jesus turned to the word of God because it is true, trustworthy, and infallible. It is God's word. If Jesus trusts the Bible, so should we. Jesus pointed to the Law here because He wanted the lawyer to see the truth about himself. Jesus was holding up the mirror of the law through which comes the knowledge of sin. The law shows us how we have failed and our desperate need for cleansing, but it does not do the cleansing.

The lawyer quotes from [Deuteronomy 6:4-5](#) and [Leviticus 19:18](#). Yet the lawyer did not seem concerned about the sin in his own life. He did not feel the conviction of sin and probably thought that he WAS doing these things. Jesus told him that he answered correctly, but took it a step further – “Go and do likewise.” Jesus was not teaching that a law-keeping life would gain someone eternal life. Jesus used a verb tense of the original language that refers to a continual action. It is not a one-time good deed. It is the pattern of life. The standard is perfection – loving God and others without fail all of the time.

The lawyer wanted to justify himself, so He challenged Jesus to explain who was his neighbor. When sin is exposed, our natural response is to water down the requirements of God's law or exaggerate our ability to keep the law. There is a “lawyer” in all of us. We try to justify ourselves in many ways. We try to blame others, do good works that people will notice, flaunt our spiritual knowledge and correct theology. We beat ourselves down, feigning self-loathing or say we are not as bad as others. What does the lawyer in your heart say? How does your heart naturally try to justify itself? This lawyer was not bothered by the commands of the law. He was not in any way convicted by his ability to follow the law. Are you concerned? Do you examine your own heart? You will not be judged by a holy God on the basis of how you did in comparison to

someone else. You will be judged in light of His holiness. You should be bothered if you blow off the demands of the law. You should respond in humility. Justifying of your sin blinds you. You must put aside your self-justification and take an honest look at yourself in the mirror of God's law. It's painful and humbling, but it is good and needful.

## 2. Read Vs. 30-37

After two respected, religious Jews passed by the man on the road, Jesus' audience may have expected the third passerby to be a "blue collar" Jew. But it was a Samaritan. The shock must have been astounding. Jews and Samaritans were sworn enemies. They hated each other. In Luke's account in [chapter 9](#), you will remember that the Samaritans rejected Jesus because He was set on going to Jerusalem. James and John wanted to call down fire on them because of their response. These Jewish people, listening to the parable for the first time, were shocked. They didn't consider any Samaritan as good. They thought they were "in," and the Samaritans were "out."

You can see this same type of mentality in the history of our country with the laws of segregation from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Yet, it is hard to capture just how shocking Jesus' parable was, but we may have a clue. The lawyer couldn't even say the word "Samaritan." How do we personalize this today?

Who is the person who has let you down the most? Who has betrayed you? Who is the person or group of people who have made your life so difficult that you would refuse to help them? Jesus' parable is meant to shock us. In shocking us, He is corralling your heart that is bent on justifying itself. He wants you to take an honest look in the mirror and know who you are in light of God's holiness?

Now, consider the guy on the side of the road. Can you identify with him? He was desperate and did not care about who helped him. What if you desperately need help? Would you accept help from someone you do not love, trust, or care about. The lawyer, like us, needed a new heart. Are you willing to be interrupted and to use the resources you have to show love to others?

The passage ends with a command. ([Vs. 37](#)) We don't know how the lawyer responded to that command. How would you respond? Would you go in your own strength and try to "do likewise?" Or would you fall to your knees and tell Jesus that you cannot do it without His help? Have you come to the end of yourself? Have you come to trust the One who shows love and mercy? The way to inherit eternal life is to look to Jesus. He is THE ultimate neighbor Who left Heaven's splendor to rescue fallen mankind.

We have rejected God and made Him our enemy. There is nothing inherently good in any of us. We ARE like the man who was robbed. We are dying in sin. Jesus paid for our redemption with His very life. He lived a perfect life of love that we have failed to live, so He could die the atoning death we needed. He rose on the third day to show that the work was complete. Repent of your sin. Stop justifying it. Come to the One who can change your life. This is the free, unmerited grace of God. We are dead in our sin, but we can be born again in Jesus. It is by grace through faith.

God's mercy transforms self-serving people into loving neighbors. You don't have to perform or compete. God's mercy sets you free. ([2 Corinthians 5:14-15](#)) Are you controlled by the love of God? Jesus' blood purchased your salvation. Never take that for granted. Pray that God's love will teach you to love, so that the world may know that God is alive in you.

## Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at [www.fbcum.org](http://www.fbcum.org).

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| Next week's sermon text: <a href="#">Luke 10:38-42</a> "One Thing is Necessary" |
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## Family Guide for week of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



### Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).

# Family Guide for week of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



## **Bible Intake:** (Listening to God)

Day 1 – 1 Samuel 31:1-13

Day 2 – Romans 1:1-7

Day 3 – Romans 1:8-17

Day 4 – Romans 1:18-32

Day 5 – Romans 2:1-11

\*Read Luke 10:38-42 in preparation for church on Sunday, August 23, 2026

## **Prayer:** (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 32 (page beginning with Melanie Spicer) of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Take a moment to thank Jesus for loving you even when you make mistakes. Ask Him to help you remember His forgiveness today and to respond with love and gratitude in the way you treat others.

## **Sing together**

"Steadfast Love" – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

## **Memory verses for the month**

**Jeremiah 29:13** "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

**Psalms 145:15** "The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season."

## **Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>**

**Question 5: What else did God create?**

**Answer:** God created all things, and all his creation was very good.

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<sup>1</sup> New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)